

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN:MPH

APPROVED BY ARA:WDROGERS

S/S - MR. GAMMON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 239009

EXDIS, TOSEC 378

E.O. 1 5 :GDS

TAGS: PF , CU, BR

SUBJECT: BRAZIL'S POSITION IN QUITO

1. WE ARE REPEATING TO YOU CABLE FROM JOHN CRIMMINS INDICATING THAT THE GOB HAS NOT AS YET REACHED A DECISION BUT MAY DO SO AT A MEETING SCHEDULED FOR NEXT SATURDAY BETWEEN GEISEL AND SILVEIRA. ARUJO CASTRO AS OF LATE YESTERDAY HAD NOTHING TO REPORT, EXPRESSING TO BILL ROGERS SOME EMBARRASSMENT THAT SILVEIRA HAD NOT YET CALLED HIM.

2. MEANWHILE A WIRE SERVICE REPORT FROM BRAZILIA (FIBIS 122) QUOTES SOURCES AT ITAMARATY AS STATING THAT SILVEIRA WILL DEFINITELY NOT GO TO QUITO, THAT THE BRAZILIAN DELEGATION THERE WILL ABSTAIN, AND THAT "IT IS SAID THAT PROBABLY MORE THAN THE REQUIRED 14 VOTES" ARE IN HAND. THIS PIECE ADDS THAT "BESIDES, THESE SANCTIONS ARE BEING IGNORED AND IT IS BETTER TO PRESERVE THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM THAN CONTINUE A FORMAL ECONOMIC BLOCKADE".

3. ITAMARATY SOURCES ARE FURTHER QUOTED AS SAYING THAT BRAZIL WOULD NOT OPPOSE LIFTING THE BLOCKADE IF THAT WERE THE WILL OF THE MAJORITY; THAT IT WILL SIMPLY ABSTAIN FROM VOTING WITHOUT ADOPTING A REVISIONIST STAND OR SIDING WITH
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THE "TOUGH ONES" -- CHILE, URUGUAY, PARAGUAY AND BOLIVIA. ONCE THE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS HAVE BEEN LIFTED, AS IS EXPECTED, BRAZIL WOULD ACCEPT THIS NEW SITUATION BUT WOULD NOT RESUME DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CUBA. FINALLY, THE SOURCES SAY "ON THE OTHER HAND, THE U.S. -- WHICH WILL DEFINE ITS POSITION AFTER THE 5TH WHEN ELECTIONS ARE HELD -- IS EXPECTED TO ADOPT A STAND SIMILAR TO BRAZIL'S AND SIMPLY GO ALONG WITH THE VOTE OF THE MAJORITY."

4. THE FOREGOING MAY VERY WELL REFLECT ITAMARATY'S THINKING. IT DOES SOUND GENERALLY LIKE WHAT WE HAVE BEEN HEARING FROM THAT QUARTER IN THE LAST MONTH OR SO. ON THE OTHER HAND, AS SILVEIRA TOLD CRIMMINS, CUBA IS AS MUCH A DOMESTIC AS AN INTERNATIONAL ISSUE IN BRAZIL -- AND GEISEL WILL MAKE THE DECISION. INGERSOLL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, TOSEC 378
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE239009
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HWSHLAUDEMAN:MPH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D740310-0530
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741087/aaaahdnz.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <10 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971103
Subject: BRAZIL'S POSITION IN QUITO
TAGS: PFOR, BR, CU
To: ISLAMABAD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005